# J.R. Curtis Garden for the Blind

Published on Maude Cobb Convention & Complex (http://maudecobb.longviewtexas.gov)

# J.R. Curtis Garden for the Blind

**100 Grand Blvd.** | Click here for map [1]

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The goal of the J.R. Curtis, Jr. Memorial Garden for the Blind was to create a space in which learning and recreation came together to form a healing environment. The concept of a healing environment is based on the understanding that there is a medical connection between mind, body, and soul. Healing gardens are intended to provide an ordered place where its occupants will experience a sense of well-being and wonder that will alter their mood.

The garden evokes rhythms that energize the body, inform the spirit, and enhance the recuperative powers inherent in a weak body or mind. Other positives that have resulted from the garden are listed below.

- Boost community awareness for people with disabilities
- Give hands on learning environment to those who need it most
- Increase knowledge of the healing properties of plants
- Create an environmentally friendly garden
- Find perfection in yourself through helping others.

The Garden surrounds a beautiful pond with a perpetual fountain, ADA sidewalks, gazebo, wooden walk bridge, and a butterfly garden. The Master Plan for the Garden for the Blind contained the following elements:

## Senses:

Taste - herbs, fruits, and flowers Smell - gardenias, herbs, flowers Touch - leaves, flowers, fruits, and water Hear - water, birds, and chimes

## Raised Beds:

Plants easily accessible to wheelchairs and other guests Beds can be planted easier Gives trees added height for shade Bed walls can be used as support, seating, leaning and guiding

#### **Water Features:**

Rocky Creek Geyser fountains in pond Interactive fountain

# **Sculptures:**

Statuary with different materials (Wood - St. Francis, Stone - Angels, Metal - Abstract) Wind Chimes
Benches
Bird baths, feeders, and houses

View our photo collection on Flickr. [3]



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## Links:

[1]

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[2]

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